dues payable under the erstwhile International Price Raimbursement Scheme as the meeting taken by the Cabinet Secretary with Chairman of all export promotions committees who assured that Government would honour its commitment towards settlement of all the claims;

(d) whether any provision for release of the fund has been made in the current budget, if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the claim is likely to be reimbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (e) Government have released Rs. 200 crore in 1993 94 for settlement of a part of the claims under the erstwhile International Price Reimbursement Scheme. There is no Budget provision for IPRS in the current financial year. It has, therefore, been decided that the balance of the claims pending under the Scheme are to be met from the proceeds under Engineering Goods Export Assistance Fund cess.This will not require any further budgetary support from Government for meeting the dues.

I.T. Raids on Premises of Punjab Businessman

2768. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IT officials raided premises in Punjab in second week of July, 1994 and found huge cash, jewellery and document pertaining to illegal investment in construction, hotel, etc. if so, the details thereof:

(b) what is the number of raids carried out by IT during last 3 years and the results thereof, including the persons prosecuted; and

(c) whether the Department have come across the cases where IT official have illegally detained or arrested the persons whose premises were raided, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir. The premises of Group of concerns of Amritsar were searched by the Income Tax Department on the 7th of July, 1994. In course of the search, the following unaccounted assets were seized:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Assets	Value
Cash	1.60
Other assets	34.19
Seizur under second proviso to Section 132(1)	50.00
TOTAL	85.79

Besides, books of account and incriminating documents indicating investments in real estate have also been seized.

(b) Details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

In pursuance of the searches conducted during the aforesaid period, prosecutions have been lanuched in 41 cases upto 31.3.94.

(c) No, Sir.

Statement

Details of Searches, Seizures and Disclosures During the Financial Years 1991-92, 1992-93 *and* 1993-94

Financial Year	No. of searches	Value of assets seized	Disclosure under section 132(4) of the I.T. Act.
		(Rs. in lakhs)	(Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	3468	17984.78	18835.43
1992-93	4777	58401.97	50105.12
1993-94	5026	39645.85	44882.87

Expenditure incurred on advertisement

2769. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the total amount spent by his Ministry on advertisement given to newspapers direct or through DAVP etc. during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94, language-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Excise Duty on Leather Chemicals

2770. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leather chemicals have been permitted for import at a concessional duty of 20% without payment of counterveiling duty whereas the indigenous manufacturers have to pay an excise duty of 20% to 30% on their leather chemicals;

(b) whether it is also a fact that indigenous leather chemical manufacturers have to import their raw materials at duties ranging from 20% to 65% whereas, the finished chemicals can be imported at a concessional duty of 20% only; and

(c) if so, the reasons for supporting foreign manufacturers to sell their leather chemicals in our country at concessional rates at the expense of indigenous manufacturers, who have to pay a much higher duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Certain leather chemicals which are specified in notification No. 45/94-Customs dated 1.3.94 have been permitted for import at a concessional rate of 20% customs duty without counterveiling duty. The general rate of excise duty leviable on such chemicals is 20% *ad valorem*.

(b) Certain finished leather chemicals specified in notification No. 45/94-Customs, can be imported at a concessional rate of 20% duty. Specified raw materials for manufacture of leather chemicals attract a duty of 20% without any counterveiling duty. However, other raw materials for manufacture of leather chemical generally attract duty of 65% *ad valorem*.

(c) Concessional rate of import duty on leather chemicals was granted to give a thrust to the export efforts of the leather industry which is also employment-intensive. However indigenous chemicals used for the manufacture of exportable